

Welcome to the 'Antiques Roadshow.' What happens when your frontline apparatus actually is classified as antique? You can't get parts! It is the intention of the Lynnfield Fire Department to utilize this grant for the remounting of one of our three aging frontline rescue/pumpers and to properly equip it to ensure compatibility and interoperability with any of our surrounding communities. The current fiscal crisis in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has had a snowball effect on the local communities resulting in extremely limited local funding.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts technically classifies two out three frontline rescue/pumpers at the Lynnfield Fire Department as antique motor vehicles. The third one is almost twenty years old. All three vehicles are built on CF Mack chasses. While all three of these rescue pumpers met NFPA standards that were in effect at the time of manufacture, none of them conform to the current NFPA 1901 standard. The only reserve pumper is a 1960 FWD/Farrar with seating for only two firefighters.

During the past several years we have found it increasingly difficult to locate genuine Mack parts for these vehicles. As the apparatus ages, the mechanical problems obviously increase. On average, each of these frontline rescue/pumpers had been out of service due to mechanical issues for approximately 3 weeks last year. These out of service times have increased markedly due to the lack of availability of parts. While some genuine Mack parts can still be located, many parts are simply no longer available. Instead, it is necessary to try searching for compatible parts, often via the Internet, with a trial by error system of evaluation.

The Lynnfield Fire Department proposes to take one of the 1976 CF Mack E-One rescue/pumpers and remount the body onto a new E-One Typhoon chassis. This newly refurbished rescue/pumper would meet the current NFPA 1901 standard when completed. This project has a budget of \$200,000. Included in this budget is the actual cost to remount the existing body and a residual amount to ensure proper equipment to meet the NFPA 1901 standard.

Additionally, the appropriate equipment would also be purchased to guarantee compatibility and interoperability with any of our surrounding communities. This equipment includes, but is not limited to, both UHF and VHF multi-channel radios to provide direct communications with any dispatch center or regional coordinating center, multiple reducers of all sizes and thread adapters to provide guaranteed compatibility with couplings from any other fire department.

Currently there is no funding available for purchasing this equipment within the local budget. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is in the midst of a severe fiscal crisis that has resulted in grave reductions in local assistance (one of the primary sources of revenue for local governments). The capital equipment budget for the entire Town of Lynnfield government stands at \$125,000. Of this amount \$0 has been appropriated to the Lynnfield Fire Department. It is therefore necessary to become more creative in replacing our aging fleet of apparatus. While a new rescue/pumper would be the most

desirable solution, refurbishing one of our existing rescue/pumpers as outlined above is certainly more cost effective and provides the greatest cost/benefit.

The 2003 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program could enable the Lynnfield Fire Department to move out 1970's firefighting technology into the twenty-first century. Aging apparatus means decreasing reliability and questionable availability of replacement parts. Aging apparatus also affects other communities, as the Lynnfield Fire Department's availability to respond to mutual aid requests is restricted when frontline apparatus is out of service - which occurs more and more frequently as our aging apparatus becomes less reliable. While local and state funding is rapidly shrinking, the need to provide the dedicated firefighters in the Town of Lynnfield with modern, reliable and safe equipment is always in existence.